

4. (Twice Amended) A dermal agent according to claim 2, said dermal agent having an inhibitory effect on *Staphylococcus*.

5. (Twice Amended) A dermal agent according to claim 1, said dermal agent having inhibitory activity against lipase derived from microorganisms.

6. (Twice Amended) A dermal agent according to claim 1, said dermal agent having inhibitory activity against hyaluronidase derived from microorganisms.

9. (Twice Amended) A dermal agent comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound which liberates ascorbic acid in vivo represented by the following formula (3):

